



PATENT SPECIFICATION

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

An Improved Automatic Animal Trap.

I, GEORGE HENRY HOCKEY, 6, Norwood Villas, Waterworks Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, Warwickshire, Englishman, Gunmaker, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention has reference to those appliances known as animal traps, which are commonly used for catching rats, mice, & other vermin.

The improved trap in which this invention consists, is so constructed that each animal after being caught, resets the trap.

The said trap is of the double chamber kind, the first chamber is circular in shape, and has two apertures therein, one situated in the front to admit of the entrance of the animal, and the other at the back, to give access to the second chamber, which may be of any shape desired.

Within the first chamber is a circular shutter centrally pivoted, and capable of being rotated under the influence of a coiled spring. In the said shutter are apertures, corresponding with those in the wall of the chamber, and in such position that when the entrance is closed,

the aperture giving access to the second chamber is open, and *vice versa*.

In the front chamber is a spike, or hook, to carry the bait, and connected therewith is a trigger, which in its normal position engages with a catch on the revolving shutter, holding it in such a position that one of the apertures therein coincides with the front aperture in the wall of the chamber, so that the entrance is open.

Fitted in the entrance to the second chamber is a non-return gate, connected with a catch on the shutter, which holds it normally, with the front aperture closed, and the back one open. The arrangement is such that, on the animal pulling the baited spike, or hook, the shutter is released, and actuated by the spring, rotates, until arrested by the member on the non-return gate, and held with the front aperture closed, and the back one open, giving the animal access to the second chamber, in passing through he lifts the gate, allowing the shutter to again rotate, closing the back aperture, and opening the front one, re-setting the trap.

Dated the 12th day of December, 1922.

G. H. HOCKEY.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

An Improved Automatic Animal Trap.

I, GEORGE HENRY HOCKEY, 6, Norwood Villas, Waterworks Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, Warwickshire, British subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention has reference to those appliances known as animal traps, which

are commonly used for catching rats, mice, and other vermin. The improved trap in which this invention consists, is so constructed that each animal after being caught re-sets the trap. The said trap is of the double chamber kind. The first chamber is circular in shape, and has two apertures in the wall thereof, one situated in the front, to admit of the entrance of the animals, and the other

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at the back to give access to the second chamber, which may be of any desired shape. Within the first chamber is a circular shutter, centrally pivoted, and capable of being rotated under the influence of a coiled spring. In the said shutter are apertures corresponding with those in the wall of the chamber, and in such position that when the entrance is closed the aperture giving access to the second chamber is open, and *vice-versa*. In the first chamber is a spike, or hook, to carry the bait, and connected therewith is a trigger, which in its normal position engages with a catch on the rotating shutter, holding it in such a position that one of the apertures therein coincides with the front aperture in the wall of the chamber, so that the entrance is open. Fitted in the entrance to the second chamber is a non-return gate, engaging with the aperture in the rotating shutter which holds it normally with the front aperture closed, and the back one open. The arrangement is such that on the animal pulling the baited spike, or hook, the shutter is released, and actuated by the aforesaid spring, rotates until arrested by the non-return gate, and held with the front aperture closed, thus imprisoning the animal, and the back one open, giving access to the second chamber, in passing through, he raises the non-return gate, and releases the shutter, and it again rotates until held by the bait trigger, with the entrance open, and the back aperture closed, thus re-setting the trap.

Referring now to the accompanying sheet of drawings, Fig. I thereon represents a side elevation of my improved animal trap. Fig. II represents the rotating shutter, with supports, and spring.

The first chamber *a* has therein two apertures, one in the front *b¹* to allow the animal to enter, and the other at the back *b²* to give access to the second chamber *c*. Within the first chamber *a* is a circular shutter *d*, centrally pivoted to the crossbar *e*, and capable of being rotated under the influence of a coiled spring *f*. In the said shutter *d* are apertures *g¹ g² g³* corresponding with those *b¹ b²* in the wall of the chamber *a*, and in such a position that when the entrance *b¹* is closed, the aperture *b²* is open, and *vice-versa*.

In the chamber *a* is a spike, or hook *h*, to carry the bait, and fitted thereto is a member *i*, which normally engages with a catch *j* on the rotating shutter *d*, holding it in such a position that one of the apertures *g¹ g² g³*, in the shutter *d*, coincides with the aperture *b¹* so that the entrance *b¹* is open to admit the animal. Fitted in the aperture *b²* is a non-return gate *k*, which engages with the aperture in the shutter *d*, and normally holds it in such position that the entrance *b¹* is closed, and *b²* is open. The arrangement is such that on the animal pulling the baited spike, or hook *h*, the shutter *d* is released, and actuated by the spring *f* revolves until arrested by the gate *k*, and held with the entrance *b¹* closed, and *b²* open, thus imprisoning the animal. In its efforts to escape it then passes through the gate *k*, and by lifting it, releases the shutter *d*, which again rotates until caught by the member *i*, and held with *b¹* open, and *b²* closed, thus re-setting the trap, ready for the next comer. The spring *f* is wound up by turning the knob *l*. The animals are removed by means of the door *m*, at the rear of the chamber *C*.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. In an animal trap the use of a shutter such as *d*, capable of being rotated on its axis under the influence of a coiled spring such as *f*, and having apertures therein, such as *g¹ g² g³*, coinciding with apertures *b¹ b²* in the wall of the chamber *a*, substantially as hereinbefore described.
2. In an animal trap as claimed in Claim 1, the use of a bait spike, or hook, such as *h*, fitted with a member such as *i*, engaging with a catch such as *j*, on the shutter *d*, to hold it in the desired position, substantially as hereinbefore described.
3. In an animal trap as claimed in Claim 1, the use of a gate such as *k*, engaging with the shutter *d*, to hold it in the desired position, substantially as hereinbefore described.
4. In an animal trap, the combination of parts constituting my improved animal trap, arranged, and operating, substantially as hereinbefore described.

Dated the 7th day of September, 1923.

G. H. HOCKEY.

Fig. 1.

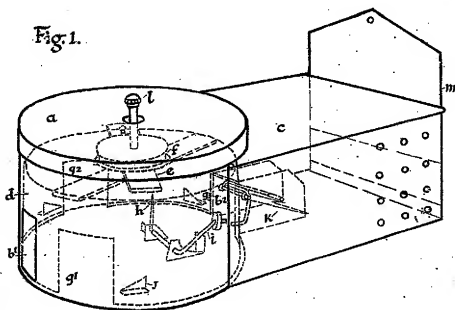
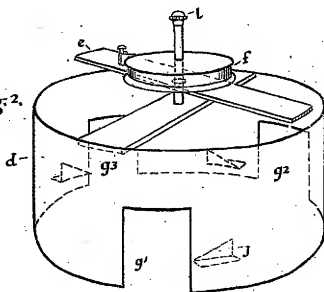


Fig. 2.



[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale]